

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
THOMAS J. ANDERSON
MARLENE J. FLUHARTY
KERRY KAMMER
O. STEWART MYERS
DAVID D. OLSON
RAYMOND POUPORE



JAMES J. BLANCHARD, Governor

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

STEVENS T. MASON BUILDING
BOX 30028
LANSING, MI 48909

GORDON E. GUYER, Director

US EPA RECORDS CENTER REGION 5



472940

RECEIVED

October 13, 1987 OCT 16 1987

CERTIFIED MAIL

SWQD-Plainwell

Michigan Standard Alloys
1256 Milton Street
Benton Harbor, Michigan 49022

Re: NPDES Permit No. MI 0037117

Dear Gentlemen:

Your National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit has been processed in accordance with appropriate state and federal regulations.

It contains the requirements necessary for you to comply with state and federal water pollution control laws.

REVIEW THE PERMIT EFFLUENT LIMITS AND PERFORMANCE SCHEDULES CAREFULLY. These are subject to the criminal and civil enforcement provisions of both state and federal law. Permit violations are audited by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and may appear in a published quarterly noncompliance report made available to agencies and the public.

Your monitoring and reporting responsibilities must be complied with in accordance with this permit. If applicable, monthly operating report forms will be transmitted to you in the near future. These reports are to be submitted monthly or otherwise as required by your NPDES permit.

Any reports, notifications, and questions regarding the attached permit or NPDES program should be sent to the following address:

Fred Morley, District Supervisor
621 North Tenth Street
P.O. Box 355
Plainwell, Michigan 49080
Telephone: (616) 685-9886

Michigan Standard Alloys
October 13, 1987
Page 2

NOTE: All references within this permit made to the Water Quality Division or Chief of the Water Quality Division are to refer to the Surface Water Quality Division or Chief of the Surface Water Quality Division, respectively.

Sincerely,

William E. McCracken

William E. McCracken, P.E.
Chief, Permits Section
Surface Water Quality Division
517-373-8088

Enclosure: Permit

cc: EPA-Region V (2)
Files

Mr. Steve Buda, Planning and Special Programs Section
Mr. Fred Morley - Plainwell District (2)
Mr. Paul Blakeslee, Regional Supervisor, Region III
Compliance and Enforcement, SWQD
Land Application Unit
208 Agency - Southwest Michigan Regional Planning Commission
Data Entry, SWQD
Point Source Studies (Grand Rapids District Office)

MICHIGAN WATER RESOURCES COMMISSION
AUTHORIZATION TO DISCHARGE UNDER THE
NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM

In compliance with the provisions of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq; the "Act"), and the Michigan Water Resources Commission Act, as amended, (Act 245, Public Acts of 1929, as amended, the "Michigan Act"),

Michigan Standard Alloys
division of
MSA Industrial Corporation

is authorized to discharge from a facility located at

1256 Milton Street
Benton Harbor, Michigan 49022

designated as Mich Standard Alloys


to the receiving water named the Ox Creek via municipal storm sewer in accordance with effluent limitations, monitoring requirements and other conditions set forth in Parts I and II hereof.

This permit for increased use takes immediate effect on the date of issuance, unless the applicant either administratively or judicially challenges any condition of this permit, in which case the entire permit is stayed and all authorizations explicitly or implicitly contained in the permit cease. Any person who feels aggrieved by this permit may file a sworn petition with the Commission, setting forth the conditions of the permit which are being challenged and specifying the grounds for the challenge. The Commission may reject any petition filed more than 60 days after issuance as being untimely. During the course of any administrative proceeding brought by a person other than the applicant, the conditions of this permit will remain in effect, unless the Commission determines otherwise.

This permit and the authorization to discharge shall expire at midnight July 31, 1992. In order to receive authorization to discharge beyond the date of expiration, the permittee shall submit such information and forms as are required by the Michigan Water Resources Commission no later than 180 days prior to the date of expiration.

This permit is based on the Company's application submitted on May 13, 1987, and shall supersede any and all Orders of Determination, Stipulation, Final Orders of Determination, or NPDES permits previously adopted by the Michigan Water Resources Commission.

Issued this 17th day of September, 1987, by the Michigan Water Resources Commission, superseding NPDES Permit No. MI0037117, expiring October 31, 1980.


Paul D. Zugger
Executive Secretary

PART I

A. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

1. Final Effluent Limitations

During the period beginning upon an initiation of discharge and lasting until the expiration date of this permit, the permittee is authorized to discharge up to fifty seven thousand and six hundred (57,600) gallons per day of purged and treated groundwater from outfall 00A through outfall 001 (formerly 002) to Ox Creek via municipal storm sewer. Such discharge shall be limited and monitored by the permittee as specified below:

<u>Effluent Characteristic</u>	<u>Discharge Limitations</u>				<u>Monitoring Requirements</u>	
	<u>lbs/day</u>		<u>Other Limitations</u>		<u>Measurement Frequency</u>	<u>Sample Type</u>
	<u>Monthly Average</u>	<u>Daily Maximum</u>	<u>Monthly Average</u>	<u>Daily Maximum</u>		
Flow (MGD)					Daily	Report Total Daily Flow
BTX* (using USEPA Method 602, or equivalent)				20 ug/l	Monthly	Grab
Outfall Observation					Daily	Visual

*Benzene plus toluene plus xylene(s) in combination

a. The receiving stream shall contain no unnatural turbidity, color, oil film, floating solids, foams, settleable solids, or deposits as a result of this discharge.

b. Samples, measurements, and observations taken in compliance with the monitoring requirements above shall be taken after treatment and prior to mixing with the noncontact cooling water at outfall 00A.

c. Any unusual characteristics of the discharge (i.e., unnatural turbidity, color, oil film, floating solids, foams, settleable solids or deposits) shall be reported immediately to the Plainwell District Office of the Surface Water Quality Division followed with a written report within 5 days detailing the findings of the investigation and the steps taken to correct the condition.

d. In the event the permittee shall require the discharge of water treatment additives, the permittee shall notify the Chief of the Surface Water Quality Division. The permittee shall obtain written approval from the Chief of the Surface Water Quality Division to discharge such additives at a specified level. The permit may be modified in accordance with the requirements of Part II.B.4 if a constituent of the additive or additives requires limiting.

PART I

Section A.

2. Final Effluent Limitations

During the period beginning on the effective date of this permit and lasting until the expiration date of this permit, the permittee is authorized to discharge up to fifty seven thousand and seven hundred (57,700) gallons per day of noncontact cooling water and treated groundwater from outfall 001 (formerly 002) to Ox Creek via municipal storm sewer. Such discharge shall be limited and monitored by the permittee as specified below:

Effluent Characteristic	Discharge Limitations				Monitoring Requirements	
	lbs/day		Other Limitations		Measurement	Sample
	Monthly Average	Daily Maximum	Monthly Average	Daily Maximum	Frequency	Type
Flow (MGD)					2 X Monthly	Report Total Daily Flow
Outfall Observation					2 X Monthly	Visual

a. The receiving stream shall contain no unnatural turbidity, color, oil film, floating solids, foams, settleable solids, or deposits as a result of this discharge.

b. Samples, measurements, and observations taken in compliance with the monitoring requirements above shall be taken prior to discharge into the municipal storm sewer.

c. Any unusual characteristics of the discharge (i.e., unnatural turbidity, color, oil film, floating solids, foams, settleable solids or deposits) shall be reported immediately to the Plainwell District Office of the Surface Water Quality Division followed with a written report within 5 days detailing the findings of the investigation and the steps taken to correct the condition.

d. In the event the permittee shall require the discharge of water treatment additives, the permittee shall notify the Chief of the Surface Water Quality Division. The permittee shall obtain written approval from the Chief of the Surface Water Quality Division to discharge such additives at a specified level. The permit may be modified in accordance with the requirements of Part II.B.4 if a constituent of the additive or additives requires limiting.

e. The term noncontact cooling water shall mean water used for cooling which does not come into direct contact with any raw material, intermediate product, by-product, waste product, or finished product.

PART I

Section A.

3. Special Condition - Basis of Design, Plans and Specifications, and an Operations and Maintenance Manual

Best Available Treatment (BAT) is a two-stage activated carbon system, or equivalent. Prior to construction of the treatment system, the permittee shall receive the approval of the Plainwell District Supervisor of the Surface Water Quality Division for: a basis of design, and plans and specifications.

Prior to discharge, the permittee shall receive the approval of an operations and maintenance manual for the proposed treatment system. The operations and maintenance manual shall include a sampling program, consistent with the approved design, for influent, intermediate stage, and effluent testing. The sampling program shall, upon approval, be considered a condition of this permit.

PART I

Section A.

4. Special Condition - Reopener Clause

This permit may be modified or, alternatively, revoked and reissued to comply with any applicable standard(s) or limitation(s) promulgated under Section 301(b)(2)(c)(d), 304(b)(2) and 307(a)(2) of the Act, if the effluent standard(s) or limitation(s) so promulgated:

- a. is(are) either different in condition or more stringent than any effluent limitation in the permit; or
- b. control(s) any pollutant not limited in the permit.

5. Special Condition - Notification Requirement

The discharger shall notify the Chief of the Surface Water Quality Division, in writing, within 10 days of knowing, or having reason to believe, that a change in facility operation, sewerage system users, maintenance, or construction has resulted or will result in the discharge of:

- a. Detectable levels* of chemicals on the current Michigan Critical Materials Register or priority pollutants or hazardous substances set forth in 40 CFR 122.21, Appendix D, which were not acknowledged in the application** or listed in the application at less than detectable levels.
- b. Detectable levels* of any other chemical not listed in the application or listed at less than detection, for which the application specifically requested information.
- c. Any chemical at levels greater than five times the average level reported in the application**.

Any other monitoring results obtained as a requirement of this permit shall be reported in accordance with the schedule of compliance.

*The detectable level shall be defined as the Method Detection Limit (MDL) as given in Appendix B to Part 136, Federal Register, Vol. 49, No. 209, October 26, 1984, pp. 43430-31.

**The application submitted on May 13, 1987.

PART I

B. MONITORING AND REPORTING

1. Representative Sampling

Samples and measurements taken as required herein shall be representative of the volume and nature of the monitored discharge.

2. Reporting:

a. DMR Submittal Requirements - The permittee shall submit Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) forms to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Surface Water Quality Division, Data Entry Unit, P.O. Box 30028, Lansing, Michigan, 48909, for each calendar month of the authorized discharge period(s). The DMRs shall be postmarked no later than the 10th day of the month following each month of the authorized discharge period(s).

3. Definitions

a. The monthly average discharge is defined as the total discharge by weight, or concentration if specified, during the reporting month divided by the number of days in the reporting month that the discharge from the production or commercial facility occurred. When less than daily sampling occurs, the monthly average discharge shall be determined by the summation of the measured daily discharges by weight, or concentration if specified, divided by the number of days during the reporting month when the samples were collected, analyzed and reported.

b. The daily maximum discharge means the total discharge by weight, or concentration if specified, during any calendar day.

c. The Regional Administrator is defined as the Region V Administrator, U.S. EPA, located at 230 South Dearborn, 13th Floor, Chicago, Illinois, 60604.

d. The Michigan Water Resources Commission is located in the STEVENS T. MASON BUILDING. The mailing address is P.O. Box 30028, Lansing, Michigan, 48909.

e. The Chief of the Surface Water Quality Division's mailing address is P.O. Box 30028, Lansing, Michigan, 48909.

4. Test Procedures

Test procedures for the analysis of pollutants shall conform to regulations published pursuant to Section 304(h) of the Act, under which such procedures may be required.

PART I

Section B.

5. Recording Results

For each measurement or sample taken pursuant to the requirements of this permit, the permittee shall record the following information:

- a. The exact place, date, and time of sampling;
- b. The dates the analyses were performed;
- c. The person(s) who performed the analyses;
- d. The analytical techniques or methods used; and
- e. The results of all required analyses.

6. Additional Monitoring by Permittee

If the permittee monitors any pollutant at the location(s) designated herein more frequently than required by this permit, using approved analytical methods as specified above, the results of such monitoring shall be included in the calculation and reporting of the values required in the Discharge Monitoring Report. Such increased frequency shall also be indicated.

7. Records Retention

All records and information resulting from the monitoring activities required by this permit including all records of analyses performed and calibration and maintenance of instrumentation and recordings from continuous monitoring instrumentation shall be retained for a minimum of three (3) years, or longer if requested by the Regional Administrator or the Michigan Water Resources Commission.

PART I

C. SCHEDULE OF COMPLIANCE

1. The permittee shall continue to operate the installed facilities to achieve the effluent limitations specified for outfalls 00A, and 001 (formerly 002).
2. Prior to construction of the proposed treatment system, the permittee shall receive approval from the Plainwell District Supervisor for the basis of design and plans and specifications. Prior to discharge, the permittee shall receive approval from the Plainwell District Supervisor of the Surface Water Quality Division for an operations and maintenance manual, as required by Part I.A.3.
3. No later than 14 calendar days following a date identified in the above schedule of compliance, the permittee shall submit either a report of progress or, in the case of specific actions being required by identified dates, a written statement of compliance or noncompliance. In the latter case, the statement shall include the cause of noncompliance, any remedial actions taken, and the probability of meeting the next scheduled requirement. Failure to submit the written statement is just cause to pursue enforcement action pursuant to the Commission Act and the Part 21 Rules.

PART II

A. MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

1. Duty to Comply

All discharges authorized herein shall be consistent with the terms and conditions of this permit. The discharge of any pollutant identified in this permit more frequently than or at a level in excess of that authorized shall constitute a violation of the permit.

It is the duty of the permittee to comply with all the terms and conditions of this permit. Any noncompliance with the Effluent Limitations, Special Conditions, or terms of this permit constitutes a violation of Public Acts 245, of 1929, as amended, and/or PL 92-500, as amended, and constitutes grounds for enforcement action; for permit termination, revocation and reissuance, or modification; or denial of an application for permit renewal.

2. Change of Conditions

Any anticipated facility expansion, production increases, or process modification which will result in new, different, or increased discharges of pollutants must be reported by submission of a new application or, if such changes will not violate the effluent limitations specified in this permit, by notice to the permit issuing authority of such changes. Following such notice, the permit may be modified to specify and limit any pollutant not previously limited.

3. Containment Facilities

The permittee shall provide facilities for containment of any accidental losses of concentrated solutions, acids, alkalies, salts, oils, or other polluting materials in accordance with the requirements of the Michigan Water Resources Commission Rules, Part 5. This requirement is included pursuant to Section 5 of the Michigan Water Resources Commission Act 245, P.A. of 1929, as amended, and the Part 5 Rules of the General Rules of the Commission.

4. Operator Certification

The permittee shall have the waste treatment facilities under direct supervision of an operator certified by the Michigan Water Resources Commission, as required by Section 6a of the Michigan Act.

5. Noncompliance Notification

If, for any reason, the permittee does not comply with or will be unable to comply with any daily maximum effluent limitation specified in this permit, the permittee shall provide the Chief of the Surface Water Quality Division with the following information, in writing, within five (5) days of becoming aware of such condition:

- a. A description of the discharge and cause of noncompliance; and
- b. The period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times; or, if not corrected, the anticipated time the noncompliance is expected to continue, and the steps taken to reduce, eliminate and prevent recurrence of the noncomplying discharge.

PART II.

Section A.

6. Spill Notification

The permittee shall immediately report any spill or loss of any product, by-product, intermediate product, oils, solvents, waste material, or any other polluting substance which occurs to the surface waters or groundwaters of the state by calling the Department of Natural Resources 24-hour Emergency Response telephone number, 1-800-292-4706 (calls from out-of-state dial 1-517-373-8166); and the permittee shall within ten (10) days of the spill or loss, provide the state with a full written explanation as to the cause and discovery of the spill or loss, clean-up and recovery measures taken, preventative measures to be taken, and schedule of implementation. This requirement is included pursuant to Section 5 of the Michigan Water Resources Commission Act 245, P.A. of 1929, as amended.

7. Facility Operation

The permittee shall at all times properly operate and maintain all treatment or control facilities or systems installed or used by the permittee to achieve compliance with the terms and conditions of this permit.

8. Adverse Impact

The permittee shall take all reasonable steps to minimize any adverse impact to the surface or groundwaters of the state resulting from noncompliance with any effluent limitation specified in this permit including, but not limited to, such accelerated or additional monitoring as necessary to determine the nature and impact of the discharge in noncompliance.

9. By-Passing

Any diversion from or by-pass of facilities necessary to maintain compliance with the terms and conditions of this permit is prohibited, except (i) where unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage, or (ii) where excessive storm drainage or runoff would damage any facilities necessary for compliance with the effluent limitations and prohibitions of this permit. The permittee shall promptly notify the Michigan Water Resources Commission and the Regional Administrator, in writing, of such diversion or by-pass.

10. Power Failures

In order to maintain compliance with the effluent limitations and prohibitions of this permit, the permittee shall either:

- a. Provide an alternative power source sufficient to operate facilities utilized by permittee to maintain compliance with the effluent limitations and conditions of this permit which provision shall be indicated in this permit by inclusion of a specific compliance date in each appropriate "Schedule of Compliance for Effluent Limitations".
- b. Upon the reduction, loss, or failure of one or more of the primary sources of power to facilities utilized by the permittee to maintain compliance with the effluent limitations and conditions of this permit, the permittee shall halt, reduce or otherwise control production and/or all discharge in order to maintain compliance with the effluent limitations and conditions of this permit.

PART II

Section A.

11. Removed Substances

Solids, sludges, filter backwash, or other pollutants removed from or resulting from treatment or control of wastewaters shall be disposed of in a manner such as to prevent any pollutant from such materials from entering navigable waters, or the entry of toxic or harmful contaminants thereof onto the groundwaters in concentrations or amounts detrimental to the groundwater resource.

12. Upset Noncompliance Notification

If a process "upset" (defined as an exceptional incident in which there is unintentional and temporary noncompliance with technology based permit effluent limitations because of factors beyond the reasonable control of the permittee) has occurred, the permittee who wishes to establish the affirmative defense of upset shall notify the Chief of the Surface Water Quality Division by telephone within 24 hours of becoming aware of such conditions and within five (5) days, provide in writing, the following information:

- a. That an upset occurred and that the permittee can identify the specific cause(s) of the upset;
- b. That the permitted wastewater treatment facility was, at the time, being properly operated;
- c. That the permittee has specified and taken action on all responsible steps to minimize or correct any adverse impact in the environment resulting from noncompliance with this permit.

In any enforcement proceedings the permittee, seeking to establish the occurrence of an upset, has the burden of proof.

13. Any requirement of this permit which is included under the unique terms of the Water Resources Commission, Act 245, P.A. of 1929, as amended, and rules promulgated thereunder, is not enforceable under the Federal Clean Water Act regulations.

PART II

B. RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Right of Entry

The permittee shall allow the Executive Secretary of the Michigan Water Resources Commission, the Regional Administrator and/or their authorized representatives, upon the presentation of credentials:

- a. To enter upon the permittee's premises where an effluent source is located or in which any records are required to be kept under the terms and conditions of this permit; and
- b. At reasonable times to have access to and copy any records required to be kept under the terms and conditions of this permit; to inspect any monitoring equipment or monitoring method required in this permit; and to sample any discharge of pollutants.

2. Transfer of Ownership or Control

In the event of any change in control or ownership of facilities from which the authorized discharge emanates, the permittee shall notify the succeeding owner or controller of the existence of this permit by letter, a copy of which shall be forwarded to the Michigan Water Resources Commission and the Regional Administrator.

3. Availability of Reports

Except for data determined to be confidential under Section 308 of the Act and Rule 2128 of the Water Resources Commission Rules, Part 21, all reports prepared in accordance with the terms of this permit shall be available for public inspection at the offices of the State Water Pollution Control Agency and the Regional Administrator. As required by the Act, effluent data shall not be considered confidential. Knowingly making any false statement on any such report may result in the imposition of criminal penalties as provided for in Section 309 of the Act and Sections 7 and 10 of the Michigan Act.

4. Permit Modification

After notice and opportunity for a hearing, this permit may be modified, suspended, or revoked in whole or in part during its term for cause including, but not limited to, the following:

- a. Violation of any terms or conditions of this permit;
- b. Obtaining this permit by misrepresentation or failure to disclose fully, all relevant facts; or
- c. A change in any condition that requires either a temporary or permanent reduction or elimination of the authorized discharge.

PART II

Section B.

5. Toxic Pollutants

Notwithstanding Part II.B.4 above, if a toxic effluent standard or prohibition (including any schedule of compliance specified in such effluent standard or prohibition) is established under Section 307(a) of the Act for a toxic pollutant which is present in the discharge and such standard or prohibition is more stringent than any limitation for such pollutant in this permit, this permit shall be revised or modified in accordance with the toxic effluent standard or prohibition and the permittee so notified.

6. Civil and Criminal Liability

Except as provided in permit conditions on "By-Passing" (Part II.A.9) and "Power Failures" (Part II.A.10), nothing in this permit shall be construed to relieve the permittee from civil or criminal penalties for noncompliance, whether or not such noncompliance is due to factors beyond his control, such as accidents, equipment breakdowns, or labor disputes.

7. Oil and Hazardous Substance Liability

Nothing in this permit shall be construed to preclude the institution of any legal action or relieve the permittee from any responsibilities, liabilities, or penalties to which the permittee may be subject under Section 311 of the Act except as are exempted by federal regulations.

8. State Laws

Nothing in this permit shall be construed to preclude the institution of any legal action or relieve the permittee from any responsibilities, liabilities, or penalties established pursuant to any applicable State law or regulation under authority preserved by Section 510 of the Act.

9. Property Rights

The issuance of this permit does not convey any property rights in either real or personal property, or any exclusive privileges, nor does it authorize violation of any Federal, State or local laws or regulations, nor does it obviate the necessity of obtaining such permits or approvals from other units of government as may be required by law.

10. Severability

The provisions of this permit are severable, and if any provision of this permit, or the application of any provision of this permit to any circumstances, is held invalid, the application of such provision to other circumstances, and the remainder of this permit, shall not be affected thereby.

11. Notice to Public Utilities (Miss Dig)

The issuance of this permit does not exempt the permittee from giving notice to public utilities and complying with each of the requirements of Act 53 of the Public Acts of 1974, being sections 460.701 to 460.718 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, when constructing facilities to meet the terms of this permit.